

Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, W J Adshead-Grant, The Parish Office, Great Waltham Village Hall (Hulton Hall) ,
South Street , Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF

E Mail: clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk Website: https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish

Minutes of the Meeting of the Great Waltham Parish Council at the **Upstairs Committee Room, Great Waltham Village Hall (Hulton Hall) , South Street , Great Waltham** on Monday 17th February 2020

19/329 Chairman's Welcome

Chairman Steel
Cllr Martin, Dunn, Jackson, Palmer, Bloomfield, Gilbert, Huggins and McDevitt

19/330 Apologies

Cllr Jenkins and Lockwood

19/331. Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to items on the agenda and any request for dispensation.

None requested

19/332. Public Participation session

4 members of the public.

- 19/345 – Millennium Gate passageway Claim that this is a Public Right of Way and that the Parish Council should spend available CIL/S106 funds on it.
- 19/352 Complaint about County Broadband (CBB) poor communications between CBB and all parties (Customers / Contractors and Staff). Letters to North End residents had a Ford End header County Broadband are confused that the Parish is Great Waltham and Not Ford End. The project is called the Ford End Project. Communication tool should be via the Parish Council or Parish News so that appropriate communication can be shared.
- 19/342 – Application refused as the Greensward is owned by the City Council. Parish Council supported the item. The City Council have explained that more than 2 parking spaces would likely be required. Query why other greens access has been given.
- 19/342 – Park their van on the greensward outside the house and would like a solution.

19/333. Report by County Councillor.

The Army and Navy is being removed currently. It's likely to be some time before the flyover is replaced. Sheepcoates roundabout is causing additional routes of travel to avoid the roadworks. County Council manage the road closures – when asked if it was a legal requirement to inform residents answer was that it would be helpful but not mandatory Essex Superfast – Open Reach and County Broadband both working on a roll out in Littley Green.

Writtle is having some rubber curbs installed – that will be bolted in – “Harlow Curb” rather than concreted in.

Budget approved last week. Each of the 75 County Councillor will have £10,000 to distribute within their ward. Details on the criteria are not yet available.

Footway works – of a small nature can be expedited.

19/334 Report by Chelmsford City Councillor

Land East of Rye Cottage 19/01261/FUL went to Planning Committee, referred to site visit, then passed at follow up Planning Committee

Bloor Homes consultation completed. Issues raised around road access and additional load on local schools. Whilst they may have capacity (or can increase) it will result in extra traffic to areas that already have car parking demands that exceed supply.

City Council to plant 150,000 trees in Council land – (City or Parish). Opportunity for the parish as CCC will design, supply and probably plant them with Parish Council expected to maintain them

19/342 To highlight the concerns with vehicular parking on greens and unauthorised access over greens for parking in front of homes. A proposal to explore the options for alleviating congestion/ parking difficulties in Cherry Garden Road. To engage highways and CHP in management/ cooperation in finding solutions where possible.

The area does not provide enough off-road parking for modern households and road parking is a problem. Cars and Vans are parking on the green areas, causing contention and damage. The green areas are owned by Chelmsford City Council.

Requests for driveways across the greensward appear to be addressed inconsistently by the Chelmsford City Council Planning department. Associated drop kerbs and driveways need to be paid for by individual homeowners.

The Parish Council can appreciate that residents should have more of a say in their environment and it is important to understand their views.

Resolution: The Parish Council to create a specific survey of Cherry Garden Road and discuss the results with CHP and CCC if appropriate.

19/343 Consider and approve the lease from CHP for the Blossom way car parking
14 Car parking spaces lease is close to final version and will be circulated before the next meeting ready for approval. Handover will around 1st week in April. – 4 Spaces must be available for the Scouts in the evening. Discussion on how the spaces would be managed decided that 4 Spaces could be reserved for the School / Scouts in order to simplistically meet the clause to provide 4 spaces for the Scouts in the evening..

Resolution: Approved to permanently reserve 4 spaces for Scouts/School and make all others available to public for roadworthy vehicles then review in 6 months

19/344 Consider being part of the CCC Tree Planting initiative in the Parish

A suggestion was made to plant trees on the Ford End Recreation Ground – opposite end to the Play equipment.

Chelmsford City council would be willing to design, supply and plant up to 1500 trees to create a woodland area that covers the lower half of the Ford End recreation Ground which would allow pedestrian access for amenities such as dog walking. Ongoing maintenance would be the responsibility of the Parish Council This suggestion maybe premature to the overall ongoing strategy discussion for the Recreation grounds. However, given the offer from City Council it was agreed to consult with residents and feedback to the Annual Assembly in Ford End in June.

Resolution Bring feedback analysis on Ford End Recreation Ground to the Annual Assembly

19/345 To consider information gathered on the millennium gate passageway refurbishment and the Councils view of undertaking the Project.

Extensive investigation of the passageway has revealed:

- It is not a Public Right of Way (PROW) – checked on ECC highways interactive map and conformed by legal position from ECC definitive Map of PROWs.
- The land appears not be registered at the Land Registry – registrations for Church and adjacent properties checked
- It is not owned by the Micklem estate
- The adjacent properties have been written to
- The Parish Council would not wish to work on land they do not own, or even know who the owner is (as they cannot secure right of use) – this would create liability and insurance issues
- The Parish Council taking ownership would be difficult as they cannot show any prior right of use/interest/maintenance etc. To try and register the land because it unused may cost circa £3,000 and may not be succesful (This may not be the case for the Church or adjacent properties who can prove some sort of long term interest in the site)

Estimates obtained for refurbishing the site are £1,000 to replace the concrete, or £3,000 in Yorkstone (to match the plans for the Church paths)

Given the difficulties and potential costs, The Parish Council cannot see a way ford on this, but will defer to next meeting having established the above facts

Resolution: Defer to the next meeting.

19/346 Consider the proposal to refurbish the Great Waltham Recreation Ground Changing Rooms and agree which contractor should carry out the roof replacement works – Cllr Martin

A number of proposals were considered, the first of which was to refurbish the building rather than replace or remove. Given this, a programme of work was discussed starting with replacing the roof, then the windows/shutters. After this, and better understanding the internal layout, consider the uses of the building.

Resolution **Approve the refurbishment of the Changing Rooms**

Resolution **Approve the schedule of work and authorize stage 2**

Resolution **Suspend Financial regulations to allow to proceed with two quotations.**

Resolution: **Seek additional quotation. If the additional quotation is priced similarly or more expensive then the Local quote to be accepted and instructed.**

Resolution **Cllr Jenkins, Martin and Huggins appointed as a project team**

19/347 To approve the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to increase hourly paid staff rates by 6.2% in line with the Living Wage.

Resolution **Approved**

19/348 Authorisation to replace parish council signs in the Village hall Car Park.

Resolution **Authorised to replace damaged signs Up to £40.00**

19/349 Discuss theme and arrangements for the annual assembly at Ford End Village Hall on Monday 1st June at 8pm.

Suggest County Broad band, Update on Ford End Speed Cameras and Ford End Recreation Ground.

19/350 Review and Sign the monthly bank reconciliation

Resolution **Approved and signed**

19/351 To consider the adoption of the draft harassment and discrimination policy circulated prior to the meeting.

Resolution **Adopted**

19/352 Discuss the County Broadband project following feedback from residents. Residents' and PC meeting with County Broadband on the 13th February on Littlely Green. Agreement to minimize new telegraph poles including removing some that have been installed. County Broad Band are installing fibre To the Premises (FTTP) Concerns by residents that communications from County Broad Band to them (and their own installers) could be better. As such, communications with the parish council have been reactive rather than proactive. There is a view that CBB are not working with the Parish Council but are responding to Parish Council complaints raised on behalf of the residents.

Resolution: Write to County Broad band and highlight the issues raised between Ford End and Littlely Green and invite them to the Annual Meeting of the Parish at Ford End.

19/353 Discuss the action required to clear the tree at Broads Green. Quote received.

Resolution **Suspend Financial Regulation**

Resolution **Proceed with the single quote**

19/354 Discuss the quote for a gate at Ford End recreation Ground

Quote of nearly £400. The PC felt that closing the gap at an expense of £400, based on one complaint, was unjustified.

Resolution: Item Closed

19/355 To consider for ratification the proposed new allotment agreement wording.

Resolution **Approved**

19/356 To update the meeting on the process to communicate the 2020 allotment rent increase and new agreement wording to allotment holders

Resolution Approved and issue.

19/357 To approve the Clerk signing up for the New EALC online courses. Course fees are £17 per unit and cover GDPR and Health and Safety.

Resolution Approved

19/358 To discuss and approve the Village Hall request for the potential use of the Parish Office for the May elections of the Police and Fire Commissioner.

Resolution Approved on the basis that the fee is shared between the Parish Council and Great Waltham Village Hall

19/359 Discuss and approve any items for media broadcast by the Parish Council

- Blossom Way Car Park – Parish News April Edition and Facebook
- Blossom Way Housing – Parish News and Facebook – open for bids
- VE Day Celebration – Parish News and Facebook
- CBB roll out in Ford End, North end, Littley Green

Meeting Closed 23:00
W.Adshead-Grant
Clerk to the Council